

Newsletter August 2026

NSC for the Nordic countries

Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, Sweden

[this letter in Swedish]

In this letter: CHARIS Nordic – New Fire with Hope and Purpose Ministries, European Prayer Network and upcoming European meetings, City evangelization in Gällivare with f Damian, Ecumenics this summer

CHARIS Nordic – New Fire, with Hope and Purpose Ministries, USA



We are investigating the possibility of an evangelization project in the Nordic countries in collaboration with [Hope and Purpose Ministries](#), deacon Larry Oney and his wife Andi in the Nordic countries in 2027.

In October 2025, the Holy Trinity Catholic parish in Järfälla organized a [charismatic retreat with deacon Larry Oney and his wife Andi](#). Larry is a permanent deacon of the Archdiocese of New Orleans. Andy and Larry run the Hope and Purpose Ministries mission with the goal of participating in the New evangelization through preaching, teaching, leadership, church missions, and promoting the baptism of the Holy Spirit.

At an international meeting in Rome on May 30, the Holy Father met the Charismatic Renewal. [Before giving his apostolic blessing, he said:](#)

“Dear friends, I thank you for your commitment and encourage you to continue your mission. Put yourselves at the service of the dioceses and parishes, offering your experience and methods of evangelization. Faithfully follow the guidance of your priests; and, in your communal discernment, listen to the voices of wise people, even if they do not belong to your groups. Cultivate harmony and cooperation among the communities to which you belong, taking care never to give way to the desire for self-promotion, or the pursuit of power or personal prestige.”

In connection with the meeting, members of CHARIS NSC Nordic met with Deacon Larry, and a series of meetings in the Nordic countries in 2027 were discussed. Since then, further preliminary talks have taken place with Hope and Purpose Ministries. Contact has also been made with the Nordic Bishops' Conference and the Evangelization Committee in the Catholic Diocese of Stockholm. We also want to reach Iceland where CHARIS does not yet have a contact person. Nothing is ready yet, but please pray that this project can be realized!

Intercession for Europe - European Prayer Network and upcoming European meetings:

On August 6, a large intercession meeting for Europe was held on the internet organized by the CHARIS Europe under the leadership of Lordan Ljubenkov, coordinator of CHARIS Europe. All charismatic groups were invited, and up to 400 people attended the meeting. The ministry of intercessory prayer is a very important task for the Charismatic renewal. A network of intercessory prayer is being formed, and we need people who feel called to serve as national coordinators of the network, as well as people who can help coordinate prayer groups. This mission needs to be carried together. One national coordinator cannot

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carry all these responsibilities alone. Please pray for this and consider whether you have a task, such as forming a prayer group in your parish or joining an already existing group.

During the meeting, the following upcoming European meetings were presented:

- Medjugorje, 14–18 October 2026 – European Prayer Groups Meeting
- Vilnius, 16–18 April 2027 – European Meeting and Assembly
- Santiago de Compostela, 9–18 July 2027 – European Youth Meeting

We were informed about and prayed for these meetings. A central theme of tonight's intercessory prayer meeting was: *God raises up an army of intercessors who triumph through love and obedience to the Holy Spirit, serve in humility and holiness, and remain focused on the mission of the Church in Europe.*

Here are some prophetic words that came forth:

- *It is time to take our posts and pray for Europe.*
- *We need to open our eyes and ears so that we can hear more clearly what the Lord is saying to us. We must turn to Jesus.*
- *Let us not build our own kingdoms, but the united Kingdom of God. Let us surpass each other in prayer, love, and service, just as God always surpasses us in generosity.*
- *We will stand in the gap as intercessors for God's people. Like young Joan of Arc who led an army to victory, we stand as an army of prayer warriors leading God's people toward the victory and freedom that Jesus Christ won for them.*
- *Even though we are small, each of us is part of God's project.*
- *May each prayer group become a charismatic mission for the gospel of Jesus.*
- *Be flames that spread the fire of the Holy Spirit – fearless and bold, burning with God's love. May our Church be strengthened and move forward in mission.*
- *Prayer and fasting.*
- *Holy Spirit, open the gates of heaven over Europe – spiritually and physically. Water this dry land, fill the rivers with living water, protect us from storms, and return people to their source.*
- *We do penance for the sins of Europe and pray that the plans of evil will be limited through the intercession of Mary, the Queen of Peace.*
- *May more Catholics receive the grace of baptism in the Holy Spirit.*

Some Bible passages that were shared:

- *"Where two or three are gathered together in my name, there I am among them."* (Matthew 18:20)
- *Daniel's intercession for his people. (Dan. 9:4-19)*
- *"The Spirit helps us in our weakness ... the Spirit intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words ... according to the will of God."* (Rom. 8:26-27)
- *The promise that God will pour out His Spirit on all people, accompanied by prophecy, visions, and dreams. (Acts 2:17-2)*

Father Damian is burning for evangelism.

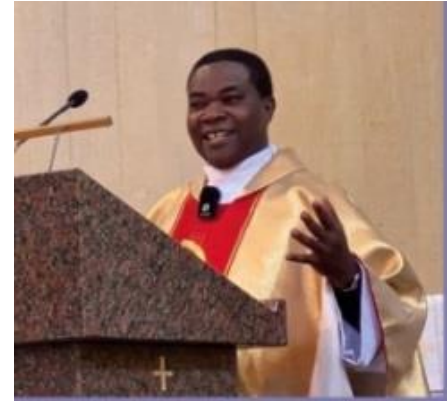
Father Damian was born in Nigeria. As a young man, he was anti-Christianity and saw the Catholic Church as a symbol of the colonial oppression. After a tumultuous conversion experience, he became a fervent Christian and was ordained a Catholic priest in 1995. From having been negative towards the charismatic

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renewal, his attitude changed after contact with charismatic groups in Nigeria. To his own surprise, he received a word of knowledge that made a great impression on those around him. (This is recounted in [the book CREDO ERGO SUM](#) where Fr Damian is interviewed by Johan Eddebo, PhD in philosophy of religion at Uppsala University).

In 2000, Fr Damian was sent to Sweden on behalf of the missionary order Missionaries of St. Paul (MSP) to work within the Catholic Diocese of Stockholm. Today he is the vicar of S:t. Josef the Worker's parish in Luleå. He has a missionary zeal that is reminiscent of the apostle Paul, and every year he organizes an evangelization drive, City evangelization, in Norrbotten (a region in north Sweden) together with his parishioners. This year it was in Gällivare. Carmen Carlsson reports:



"On July 24 – 25, people gathered opposite the Knowledge House in Gällivare to listen to this year's invited speakers. The theme of the event was 'You Shall Be My Witnesses' (Acts 1:8). Among this year's speakers were Fr. Damian O. Eze; Fr. Francisco Garcia, Catholic priest active in Haparanda; Fr. Conny Årlind, responsible for the pastoral work in southern Lapland and Philip Kuo, layman.

Every day, the event gathered about forty participants. During both days, the audience took part in lectures on Sweden's reevangelization, the Holy Spirit's work in evangelization and the role of the laity in Sweden and their importance for the life and development of the church. In addition to the lectures, the participants listened to several inspiring testimonies. Among other things, one person spoke about his conversion from the Lutheran Church to the Catholic Church, driven by a deep theological conviction. Another testimony was about how faith grew through marriage, the upbringing of children in the Catholic faith, and a personal discovery of the Catholic Church as the true faith. The days of evangelization ended with Holy Mass.

The City Evangelization is an annual event that aims to reach out and evangelize people throughout Norrbotten. Next year's event will take place in Kiruna on July 31, and the theme for City Evangelization 2027 will be "Caritas Christi urget nos" – "The love of Christ drives us" (2 Corinthians 5:14)."



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Fr Damian has also previously participated in similar evangelization campaigns in Sweden, such as in Gävle and in Stockholm where he preached at the large ecumenical event [Jesusmaifestation](#) in 2010 [[video here](#)].

F Damian also uses social media in his evangelism and publishes sermons in Swedish and English on [[the church's YouTube channel Levande Ord](#)].

Ecumenics this summer in Sweden

Every year, [the Oas Movement](#), the charismatic movement in the Lutheran Church of Sweden, organizes a **summer meeting**. This year's meeting was held at Gullbrannagården near Halmstad. Among the speakers were Hans Weicbrodt, Berit Simonsson and the Anglican bishop Philip North. From us in the CHARIS NSC Nordic team, Maria Fischer participated. Maria writes that the SummerOas has a very good setup with ecumenical breadth. Last year, our catholic bishop Anders Arborelius was a guest speaker. Anders Phil, who is chairman of the Oas Movement, has called for new ideas. Maria is in talks about further opening up and developing the ecumenical dimension.

One of the themes this year was to use one's spiritual gifts and take steps forward when God calls. We are all needed with our various gifts, but often we are too afraid and withdrawn. Priest Johan Norén talked about how it is easy to think that you have to have "so much in place" before you can start to be there for others, but that it is rather in giving that we grow, are established and healed.

Another ecumenical meeting was [Sweden Worships Jesus](#) on August 8 with 10 hours of uninterrupted worship in Kings Garden, Stockholm. For the second year in a row, this arrangement was held, and there were many thousands of people who participated from most Christian denominations. Many expressed gratitude and joy to be able to gather in the public space and discover together that we are many who cannot hold back our joy in being Christians and exalting Jesus.



(Photo: privat) The initiators and driving force behind the event are *Christoffer Ahlbäck* and *Patrik Sandberg*. They have gathered around them a broad ecumenical network that has prepared the gathering in prayer and practical efforts. Patrik was previously the leader of the prayer network Sverigebönen (Intercession for Sweden). He is a preacher and has had the

well-known Pentecostal pastor Kjell Sjöberg as his mentor. Christoffer is a priest in the Church of Sweden's revival movement EFS and the leader of the missionary and media organization [Kings Garden Ministries](#), a missionary and media organization on an Evangelical Lutheran and charismatic basis.

– We want to focus on Jesus, not on anyone else, and therefore we don't use a lot of different names and logos. We gather around the simple, to lift Jesus up in the heart of Sweden's capital," [says Christoffer Ahlbäck to the newspaper Dagen](#).

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Within CHARIS NSC Nordic, we cooperate in the way we find fruitful with all good forces within Christianity for the benefit of evangelization in accordance with the Pope's expressed wish. Together we offer our charisms and share them with each other. In this way, ecumenism is promoted, and evangelism gains new power when people see that Christians cooperate instead of competing with each other.



Kings Garden Stockholm, August 8 2026



Support CHARIS Nordic. Contributions can be made via the attached QR code or [[link here](#)].

/Bengt Malmgren, coordinator CHARIS Nordic

[[earlier newsletters here](#)]